

Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs to sponsor 10 special events during August 2015

(DOVER, Del.—July 17, 2015)—The Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs will be sponsoring 10 special events during the month of August 2015 at the museums of the state of Delaware. A full schedule is included below. With the exception of DeBraak tours, all programs are free and open to the public.



Caesar Rodney



In the program "Caesar Rodney

Meets Dr. Who” that will take place at The Old State House on Aug. 8, 2015, Dr. Who (above, bottom) will step in to rescue Caesar Rodney from aliens, allowing Rodney to complete his historic ride to Philadelphia to break the deadlock in favor of ratifying the Declaration of Independence.

Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs special events, August 2015

Saturday, Aug. 1, 2015

“The Doctor Is In.” Living-history theatrical performance by Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs historical interpreter Dennis Fisher exploring the life and times of [Dr. James Sykes](#), an 18th to 19th-century Dover physician and statesman who served as Delaware’s governor for a short period. [First Saturday in the First State](#) program. [The Old State House](#), 25 The Green, Dover. Programs at 1 and 3 p.m. Museum open 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-744-5054.

Saturday, Aug. 1, 2015

“Music Therapy.” Utilizing original recordings played on authentic Victor Talking Machines, the program explores the therapeutic power of music, and Victor Talking Machine Company founder E.R. Johnson’s passion for recording music and making it available for people across the world. [First Saturday in the First State](#) program. [Johnson Victrola Museum](#), 375 S. New St., Dover. Program at 2 p.m. Museum open 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-739-3262.

Mondays, Aug. 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31, 2015

[Lecture/tours of His Majesty’s Sloop DeBraak](#). Explore the history of the DeBraak which was capsized and lost off the Delaware coast on May 25, 1798. Program includes a trip to

the hull facility in nearby Cape Henlopen State Park for a tour of the surviving section of the ship's hull. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes. Programs at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Limited seating. Admission \$10 by reservation only through the Shop Delaware website (go to <http://shop.delaware.gov> and click the "Tours" link). For additional information, call 302-645-1148.

Saturday, Aug. 8, 2015

Demonstrations by the Thistledown Fiber Arts Guild. Program explores spinning, weaving, knitting and other fabric arts. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover. Program 1–3 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. 302-739-3277.

Saturday, Aug. 8, 2015

"Caesar Rodney Meets Dr. Who." In celebration of [Dover Comic Con](#), this inter-active program examines what would have happened if aliens had tried to interfere with [Caesar Rodney](#)'s triumphant journey to Philadelphia to break the tie for the Declaration of Independence, and how the problem would have been solved if [Dr. Who](#) stepped in to help Rodney. [The Old State House](#), 25 The Green, Dover. Programs at 1 and 3 p.m. Museum open 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-744-5054.

Wednesday, Aug, 19, 2015

"Crime and Time in Delaware." Historian Mike Dixon will present a program on the history of crime and punishment in the First State. [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle. 7 p.m. 302-323-4453.

Exhibits and displays, August 2015

In addition to special programming, the Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs is sponsoring the following exhibits and displays at sites across the state:

Ongoing

"[Delaware and the War of 1812](#)." Exhibit examines the service and sacrifice of Delawareans of 1812 to 1815, and the

important role that the state played in a conflict that helped shaped the development of the United States. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes. April 1–Oct. 31: Tue.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; Sun., 1:30–4:30 p.m. Nov. 1–March 31: Wed.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-645-1148.



Illustration of a Congreve rocket barge from the exhibit “Delaware and the War of 1812.” Congreve rockets were used by the British in the bombardment of Lewes in 1813. This weapon was the inspiration for the term “rockets’ red glare” in “The Star-Spangled Banner.”

Ongoing

“[Delaware Mourns Lincoln: A Demonstration of Love and Sorrow](#).” Utilizing graphics, clothing and memorabilia, the display explores how Delawareans expressed their deep sorrow upon the death of President Abraham Lincoln on April 15, 1865. From the collections of the state of Delaware. [The Old State House](#), 25 The Green, Dover. Mon.–Sat., 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Sun., 1:30–4:30 p.m. 302-744-5054.

Ongoing

“[Discovering Delaware’s Maritime Past](#).” Display explores the DeBraak, a shipwrecked 18th-century British warship including a photo of the hull recovery, reproductions of items aboard ship, and a model of the vessel. [Zwaanendael](#)

[Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes. Tue.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; Sun., 1:30–4:30 p.m. from April 1–Oct. 31. Wed.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. from Nov. 1–March 31. 302-645-1148.

Ongoing

[“Emeline Hawkins: Her Journey From Slavery to Freedom on the Underground Railroad.”](#) Exhibit chronicles the compelling story of Emeline Hawkins and her family and their 1845 odyssey on the Underground Railroad from slavery in Maryland, through Delaware to freedom in Pennsylvania. [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle. Wed.–Sat., 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Sun., 1:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-323-4453.



Section of the exhibit “Emeline Hawkins: Her Journey from Slavery to Freedom on the Underground Railroad,” on display at the New Castle Court House Museum.

Ongoing

[“Middletown Goes To War.”](#) Designed by the Delaware Division

of Historical and Cultural Affairs, the exhibit spotlights the contributions of Middletown's veterans from the Revolutionary War to the present. [Middletown Historical Society](#), 216 N. Broad St., Middletown. Fri., 9 a.m.–3 p.m. First Sat. of each month, 9 a.m.–Noon. Third Wed. of each month, Noon–4 p.m. Other times by appointment. 302-378-7466.

Ongoing

[Sculpture by Charles Parks](#). Display of works by the noted Wilmington artist featuring historical and political figures including a Minute Man, and presidents Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford and George W. Bush. [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle. Mon.–Sat., 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Sun., 1:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-323-4453.

Ongoing

[“A Seaborne Citizenry: The DeBraak and Its Atlantic World.”](#) Exhibit utilizes artifacts recovered from His Majesty's Sloop of War DeBraak, a British warship that sank off the Delaware coast on May 25, 1798 to tell the story of the vessel, its crew and the historical context within which it operated in the Atlantic World of the late 18th century. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes. April 1–Oct. 31: Tue.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; Sun., 1:30–4:30 p.m. Nov. 1–March 31: Wed.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-645-1148.

Ongoing

[“Simple Machines.”](#) Exhibit demonstrating the six “simple machines”—incline ramp, screw, wedge, pulley, lever and wheel—that constitute the elementary building blocks of which many more-complicated machines are composed. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover. Wed.–Sat., 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. 302-739-3277.

Ongoing

[“World War II Through the Lens of William D. Willis.”](#) Designed by the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, the display features photographs taken in Western

Europe from 1943-45. From the collections of the state of Delaware. [Legislative Hall](#), 411 Legislative Ave., Dover. Limited visitation hours; call 302-739-9194 before planning a visit.



Photograph of two P-51 Mustang fighter aircraft. The image is part of the display "World War II Through the Lens of William D. Willis" at Dover's Legislative Hall.

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